



WELCOME & HOSPITALITY

- Check in with Adult Leader Support Team
 - Write down any burning questions
 - Nametags
 - Get picture taken if needed
- Enjoy food & beverages
- Get to know one another



SYNOD JOURNEY PLANNING TEAM



- Laura Anderson: Adult Leader Training and Support
- David Anderson: Servant Events
- Shivon Miller: Worship
- Deb Westberg: Synod Day Director
- Catherine Anderson: Team Manager



DEVOTION & PRAYER



ADULT LEADER TRAINING

Planning for the Unexpected

www.elcaymnet.org/PDArchives2012

- What is something unexpected that has happened to you in ministry?



Planning for the Unexpected

Dr. Terri Elton & Dennis "Tiger" McLuen

The Holy Spirit shows up in Unexpected Places!

- Planning is still important
 - Doesn't eliminate surprises
 - Does allow for spontaneity
- Be a non-anxious presence
- Leaders make a difference!
- Remember why we are doing this:
 - Faith Formation
 - Leadership Development

This Changes Everything!



SYNOD JOURNEY DETAILS



SATURDAY, JUNE 23

- Departures, 8-10am!
- Lunch on the road (on your own)
- Dinner on the road (on your own)
- Drive through the night



BUSES

- Trobec's
- Respect Bus Drivers and Bus Captains!
- Sign and Support Bus Covenant
- Departure time/location assigned in May
- BE ON TIME!!!
- Luggage:
 - Once loaded, can't get underneath to retrieve



PACKING

- Each Participant May Bring:
 - 1 Regular Size Suitcase (*not accessible during travel*)
 - Backpack, Pillow, Blanket
- Primary Leaders May Also Bring:
 - Extra box or suitcase with supplies
 - Cooler
- Each Adult Brings:
 - Required sleeping bag, pillow, air mattress
- Each Bus Captain Will Bring:
 - Cooler
 - 5 Gallon Water Cooler
 - Games and Bus Supplies



SUNDAY, JUNE 24

- Breakfast on the road (on your own)
- Arrive at Texas A&M University Galveston



TEXAS A&M



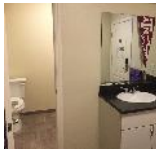
MARITIME HALL



MARITIME HALL



- Need to Bring:**
- Bedding:
 - Sheets
 - Blanket
 - Pillow
 - Towel
 - Free Laundry!



EAT, PLAY, PRAY



SUNDAY, JUNE 24

- Unload, change clothes, grab box lunch
- Stewart Beach!




STEWART BEACH

- Concessions
- Beach Chair and Umbrella Rentals
- Boogie Boards
- Showers, Restrooms



SUNDAY, JUNE 24

- Dinner at Texas A&M
- Adult Leader Meeting
- Worship
- Family Time
 - Journals
 - And/Or
 - Guided Questions




WORSHIP AND FAMILY TIME

- Colleen Windham-Hughes
- Story Kit Structure
 - Bring your Story Kits!
- Synod Journey Band




MONDAY, JUNE 25

- Breakfast at Texas A&M
- Service Learning projects all day
- Lunch at service sites
- Dinner at Texas A&M
- Adult Leader Meeting
- Worship
- Family Time




SERVICE LEARNING

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Pastor Richard Rhoades, First Lutheran Church – Lindsey White, United Way Galveston – Josh Dorrell, Galveston Urban Ministries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential Sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Galveston Parks and Rec – SMART Literacy – Food Shelf – Coastal Prairie Preservation – St. Vincent's
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SERVICE LEARNING: WHO BENEFITS?
BIANCA VASQUEZ



TUESDAY, JUNE 26

- Breakfast at Texas A&M
- Service Learning projects all day
- Lunch at service sites
- Adult Leader Meeting
- Dinner on The Colonel Paddleboat
- Worship
- Family Time

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27

- Adult Leader Walmart Supply Run
- Breakfast at Texas A&M
- Load buses for Bus Activity Choice
- Lunch (on your own)
- Bus group activities
- Head to Houston



BEGIN GATHERING SCHEDULE!



NRG PARK



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27

- Arrive NRG Park
- Meet Synod Journey Staff to get Wristbands
- Dinner at NRG (on your own)
- Mass Gathering, 7:30 – 9:15pm
 - Doors open 6pm
 - Quiet areas for sensory needs



MASS GATHERING



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27

- Load synod buses for Wyndham
 - Check In
 - Final 15



WYNDHAM HOUSTON

- Coffee Shop
- Milk Run
- Gas Station Across Street
- Family Time Options



HOUSING POLICY REMINDERS

- Adult can't share bed with youth, unless it's your child
 - Bring an air mattress.
 - Youth gets the mattress
- Adults need to stay in assigned room. Can move youth around if needed.
- Respect staff, space, other guests.
- You eat it, drink it, break it – you buy it!
- Remember to tip!



THURSDAY, JUNE 28: SYNOD DAY

- Breakfast in hotel rooms (on own)
- Load synod buses for Galleria Mall area
- Lunch/brunch (on own)
- Walk to Synod Day site: Hilton Post Oak



THURSDAY, JUNE 28: SYNOD DAY

- God's Love Changes Everything
 - Interactive Learning and Worship
 - Bishop Tom Aitken
- Doors open at 11:30 am
- Program begins at 12:00 pm
- Program ends at 3:00 pm
- NE MN Synod Day Team:
 - Deb Westerberg
 - Susan Williams
 - Leigha Lange



THURSDAY, JUNE 28: SYNOD DAY

- Load synod buses for NRG
- Dinner at NRG (on your own)
- Mass Gathering
- Load synod buses for Wyndham
- Family Time



FRIDAY, JUNE 29: SERVICE LEARNING DAY

- Breakfast in hotel rooms (on own)
- Load Gathering buses for service learning sites
 - Specific bus number
 - At or within walking distance of Wyndham
 - Time posted mid-May
- Servant Companions will guide day



FRIDAY, JUNE 29: SERVICE LEARNING DAY

You are invited
to be part of the story!

...a **story** of a diverse city with the ability to reinvent itself time and time again. A story of a city **healing** from Hurricane Harvey with a renewed sense of strength. A story where cultural **intersections** are part of daily life in the most diverse city in the country. A story of how putting your **faith** into action can create a partnership that will last beyond a single day of service in Houston. A story of **togetherness** as you learn to continue this work at home.



SHIFT your view of Service:

- Stories
- Healing
- Intersections
- Faith
- Togetherness

FRIDAY, JUNE 29: SERVICE LEARNING DAY

- Lunch provided by Jason's Deli
 - Turkey on croissant, chips, pickled and whole fruit
 - Veggie wrap, chips, pickle and whole fruit
 - Special food needs: Bring your own
- What to Pack:
 - Water bottle FILLED with water
 - Sunscreen
 - Bug Spray
 - Umbrella or Poncho
 - Snacks
 - Change of Clothes



FRIDAY, JUNE 29: SERVICE LEARNING DAY

- Depart service learning site on Gathering bus
- Go directly to NRG Arena
 - Celebration of Service
- Dinner at NRG (on your own)
- Mass Gathering
- Load synod buses for Wyndham
- Family Time



SATURDAY, JUNE 30: INTERACTIVE LEARNING DAY

- Breakfast in hotel rooms (on your own)
- Load synod buses for NRG Center



SATURDAY, JUNE 30: INTERACTIVE LEARNING DAY

- How do you find YOUR thing that changes everything?
 - 700,000 sq. ft. of intentional learning
 - Ministry Partners listed on website
 - Choose one of 8 tracks or do your own thing
- Some highlights:
 - Ropes course, hair and blood donation, walk for water, disaster ministries, seminars...



SATURDAY, JUNE 30: INTERACTIVE LEARNING DAY

- How to prepare:
 - Make a plan
 - Read about ministry partners
 - Choose a track
 - Each track takes no more than 2 hours
 - Can stop along the way
 - Get permission form for blood drive
 - Concessions open for lunch



SATURDAY, JUNE 30: INTERACTIVE LEARNING DAY

- Dinner at NRG (on your own)
- Mass Gathering
- Load synod buses for Wyndham
- Family Time



SUNDAY, JULY 1

- Breakfast in hotel rooms (on your own)
- Load buses (with luggage)
- Depart for NRG Stadium
- Closing worship
- Synod lunch at NRG (provided)
- Depart for Minnesota!
- Dinner on road (on your own)
- Drive through the night



MONDAY, JULY 2

- Breakfast on the road (on your own)
- Lunch on the road (on your own)
- Arrive home mid-afternoon

...continue the Journey!



BREAK – 15 MINUTES

- Grab more coffee
- Mingle with those at your table
- Get up, stretch, move around



COMMUNITY LIFE

- NRG Arena
 - Wed: 1pm – 6:30pm
 - Thurs – Sat: 11am – 6:30pm
 - Place to hang out if in NRG Park and done for day
 - Where you are dropped after Service Learning
- Play:
 - Inflatables, Hammock Village, Games, Lip Sync Battles, Dances, Quiet Spaces
- Bible Studies with Main Stage Speakers
 - 3:30 – 5:30pm
 - Wed: Bishop Eaton
 - Sat: Nadia Bolz-Weber
 - Live stream and uploaded to YouTube



MEALS ON YOUR OWN

- | | |
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| <p>Travel Meals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saturday, June 23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Lunch and Dinner – Dinner • Sunday, June 24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Breakfast • Sunday, July 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Dinner • Monday, July 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Breakfast and Lunch | <p>Houston Meals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday, June 27 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Lunch at Bus Activity – Dinner at NRG • Thursday, June 28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Breakfast at hotel – Lunch at Galleria – Dinner at NRG • Friday, June 29 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Breakfast at hotel – Lunch provided by Gathering – Dinner at NRG • Saturday, June 30 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Breakfast at hotel – Lunch at NRG – Dinner at NRG • Sunday, July 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Breakfast at hotel |
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FOOD OPTIONS AT WYNDHAM

- Coffee Shop
 - Yogurts, small breakfast items for sale
 - Working on a pre-order option
- Breakfast in hotel room:
 - Walmart run in Galveston for non-perishables
 - Cereal, Oatmeal, granola bars, bottled juice, etc
 - Paper products (bowls, spoons, etc)
 - Synod will place milk orders: \$5 gallon
 - Adult leaders can bring cooler
- Lunch in a backpack:
 - Sandwiches, granola bars, apples/oranges
 - Use Walmart run to get items
- Late night pizza deliveries and room service



FOOD OPTIONS AT NRG

- Food trucks
- Concessions at NRG Stadium, Arena and Park
 - Salad bar, general concessions, Chick-fil-a
 - Vegetarian and Gluten Free Options
 - Will close promptly a 7:30pm
- Meal at NRG stadium
 - \$26/person each night
 - Must be pre-ordered!



MONEY PLAN

- No MIF Bank at the Gathering
- Other options:
 - ATM
 - Pre-Loaded Debit cards
 - Hotel can usually make change
- Discuss money plan with youth
 - How will they not run out?
 - How will they protect debit cards?



OFFERING OPPORTUNITIES

- Synod Journey
 - Taken Tuesday night, split between our 3 partners
- ELCA Youth Gathering
 - Blast Off For Books
 - Global Farm Challenge
 - Sunday Morning Offering
 - Texas Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod
 - Prison Congregations of America
 - Global Ministries



CLOTHING TO BRING:

- Closed toe and heel shoes
- Hat and Sunscreen
- Covenant appropriate clothing
- Work Gloves
- Consider long shirt and pants
- NO flip flops!!

Complete what to bring list to be sent end of May.



T-SHIRTS

- Journey T-Shirt
 - Distributed in Galveston
 - Wear Wednesday, June 27
- Gathering Orange Shirt
 - Distributed in Galveston
 - Wear on Service Learning Day



SUPPLIES TO BRING

- Breakfasts, Snacks
- Water Bottles
- Backpacks
- Bible
- Food money (cash)
- Exchange Items



SAFETY

- Synod Crisis Management Plan
- Synod Notification Procedures
- Always groups of at least 3
- Know where your youth are
- Have meeting place/time
- Have all cell numbers
- Have charged phone
- “Follow me” identifiers



SAFETY

- Synod Journey Wristband:
 - Catherine’s Cell Phone Number
- ELCA Wristband:
 - ELCA Hotline Number

NO youth outside at night without an adult in the group.



SAFETY: SERVICE LEARNING

- Water – come with filled water bottle
- Sunscreen
- Hat, Lightweight long shirt and pants
- Rest Breaks



Heat Exhaustion

- Moist, pale or flushed skin
- Heavy sweating, headache, nausea, dizziness, weakness and exhaustion
- Move to cooler place and remove tight clothing
- Apply cool, wet cloths to skin
- Fan the person
- If conscious, give small amounts of cool water. Drink slowly.
- If person refuses water, vomits, or becomes unresponsive, call 911

Heat Stroke: Life Threatening!

- Skin may be hot and dry
- Changes in mental status, vomiting, high body temperature
- Call 911 as soon as possible – this is life threatening!
- Remove or loosen tight clothing.
- Immerse in cold water. Ice packs and dousing is helpful if immersion is not possible
- If responsive, give small amounts of cold water. Drink slowly.

TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES WE WILL USE:

- Instant church directory
- Text message app: Remind
- Guidebook (for ELCA Youth Gathering)
- SJ Facebook Group
- SJ Twitter account
- SJ Instagram account
- #SynodJourney18



TIMELINE

FORMS DUE MAY 1st!!



Forms Due May 1st!!
 By the deadline, you must have completed the following forms and submitted them to the Synod Office:
 - Synod Journey Health and Release Form
 - Texas A&M Waiver
 - Special Needs Survey
 - ELCA Youth Gathering YOUTH Release Form
 - ELCA Youth Gathering ADULT Release Form
 - ELCA Youth Gathering Medical and Emergency Forms
 - Adult Leader Child Protection Training Certificate

May 1st Deadline

- Final payment \$550/person
- All Forms due!!!
 - Synod Journey Health and Release
 - Texas A&M Waiver
 - Special Needs Survey
 - ELCA Youth Gathering YOUTH Release Form
 - ELCA Youth Gathering ADULT Release Form
 - ELCA Youth Gathering Medical and Emergency Forms
 - Adult Leader Child Protection Training Certificate

TIMELINE

May 31 - Final Mailing:

- Detailed itinerary
- Final packing list
- Galveston and Houston Housing Assignments
- Bus pick-up locations and times
- Emergency Contact List
- Final updates



TIMELINE

Final Group Meeting:

- Review Covenant
 - Highlight: Dress Code, Cell phone/devices, on time, lights out, public displays of affection, no in opposite gender rooms, groups of 3...and the rest!
- Contact Numbers
- Enter cell numbers in phones
- Packing information
- Loading time and location
- Group prayer!
- Include parents!!



TIMELINE

To Do Before June 23:

- Final payment, forms, copies
- May Mailing
- Bus Group Meetings
- Getting Ready Material Prep with Group
- Commissioning Service
- Communicate with Congregation
- Final Group Meeting
- Primary Leaders Download Gathering Info...



TIMELINE

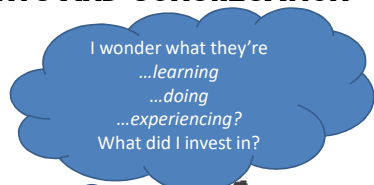
June 20:

- Primary Leaders Only!!
Access your congregational accounts!!
 - Print your Confirmation Letter June 20
 - Catherine will email specific instructions
 - Gathering Registration
 - Congregation ID
 - Primary Leader email address



COMMUNICATE ON THE JOURNEY WITH PARENTS AND CONGREGATION

- Details
- Stories
- Postcards
- Blog
- Facebook
- Instagram
- Twitter



(Make sure you have permission for pictures.)



RESOURCES

- ELCA website:
 - www.elca.org/gathering
- “ELCA Youth Gathering” Facebook Page
 - Watch the videos! (Also at www.nemnsynod.org/SJAdults)
- NE MN Synod Journey website
 - www.nemnsynod.org/SynodJourney
- Synod Journey Facebook group
 - “NE MN Synod Journey 2018 Adult Leaders”

DO NOT CALL ELCA YOUTH GATHERING OFFICE!
DO NOT CALL OUR HOTEL!
Please call Catherine with any questions ☺



OTHER DETAILS

- Friendly reminder – DO NOT ACCESS YOUR CONGREGATIONAL ACCOUNTS BEFORE CATHERINE EMAILS YOU TO DO SO!!
- No matter what reminders the Gathering sends, you do not need to go into your accounts until Catherine says to do so!
 - Your transportation is taken care of!
 - Your housing is taken care of!
 - Your final payments will be paid!!



QUESTIONS?

